

Our Saviors Lutheran Church
1035 Carol Lane Lafayette

*** License Testing 6pm ***

Meeting Begins 7:00pm

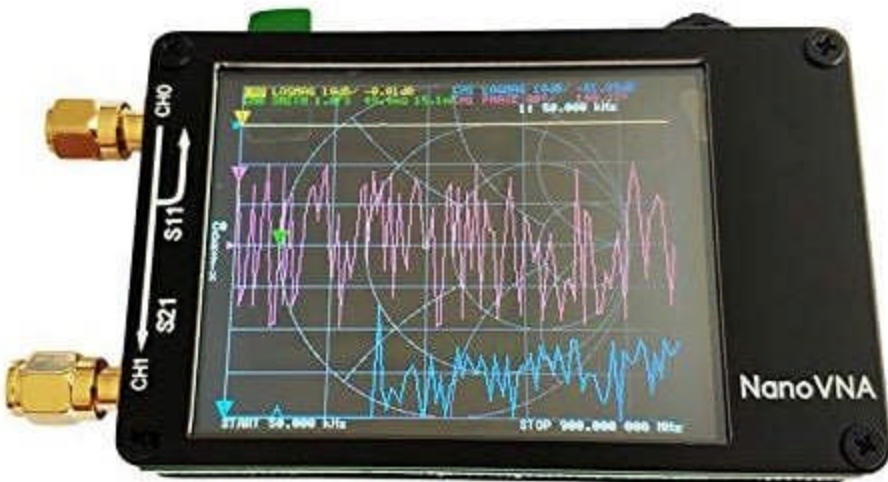
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MDARC-1 Ford communications van deployed for ARRL Field Day at Olympic High School in Concord on June 16, 2021. See inside for more on our club's Field Day activity.

(Photo by Dave Billeci, WA6UHA)



IN PERSON MEETINGS RESUME ! THIS MONTH'S MEETING



The Miraculous NanoVNA by Rob Rowlands, NZ6J.

NZ6J is a semi-retired electrical engineer from New Zealand, but is involved in teaching RF and selling part time. Rob has been licensed since 1963 when his first call was ZL3TAR. He is interested in Mountain top operating, APRS and public service events.



Tyler Blauvelt, KN6LAM
Ryan Kaelle, KN6OJE
Charles King, KN6PGD
Khelmer Manalo, KJ6QID
Ron Rowe, KN6PFY
Jeremy Rue, KK6WFQ
Julius Sinlao, KN6OUZ

**If you hear these new members on the air,
please welcome them to our club.**

*— Jan Kulisek, KM6NFC, Vice President and
Membership Chair*



**When you purchase at Amazon dot com
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<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7072059>

**ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO JOIN
THE FREE CLUB E-MAIL GROUP AT:**

<https://groups.io/g/MDARC>

Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club W6CX
P.O. Box 23222 Pleasant Hill, CA 94523
(925) 288-1730

The Carrier is a monthly publication of the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club (MDARC). It is the policy of the editor to publish all material submitted by the membership provided such material is in good taste, relevant to amateur radio and of interest to MDARC members, and provided space is available.

President - Larry Bradley, KK6QPE
Vice President - Jan Kulisek, KM6NFC
Secretary – Brian Lotter, KM6NGS
Treasurer - Cathi Walton, K2CJW
Emergency Coordinator - Ron Bunch, W4FEK

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Trevor Hall, WA6JAU Cal Vasquez, K6VT
Eric Ferguson, KA6USJ Mike Warren, W6MEW

Membership Chair – Jan Kulisek, KM6NFC
mdarcmembership@mdarc.org

PACIFICON 2021

Chair: Julie Mah, WJ8MAH
Registration: Debbie Deeble, KN6DOM
Treasurer: Jim Siemons, W6LK
Secretary: Jan Kulisek, KM6NFC

COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND COORDINATORS

Annual Auction - Jim Siemons, W6LK
Communications Trailer - Mike Warren, W6MEW
Communications Van MDARC-1 - Jim Tittle, K6SOE
Digital Media - Mike Patterson, N6JGA
Education & Training - John Primus, AF6RJ
Field Day - Larry Loomer, KI6LNB
Good & Welfare - Diana Sage, KA6TZU
Holiday Dinner - Misa Siemons, KJ6BUE
License Testing - Larry Loomer, KI6LNB
Outreach - Dick Wade, WM6G
Public Service - Lisa Anthony, K6PIA
Radio Equipment Lending - Cal Vasquez, K6VT
Refreshments - Elizabeth Styles, KG6HLV
Repeater Trustee W6LGW - Dick Brown, KT6X
Repeater Trustee W6CX - Jim Tittle, K6SOE
Scholarship - Janice Fujii, KG6VTD
Technical Committee - Jim Tittle, K6SOE

The Carrier Newsletter
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President's Message

July 2021

MDARC Family,

I looked in the rear view mirror of time and see that June is behind us and here we are not only in July, but have already celebrated Independence Day. I hope your's was an enjoyable one..and safe, too!

Those neighborhood fireworks sure may sound great to some, but most defintiely not to our dog, Angel. They really terrify her and even with some anti-anxiety medication, she becomes very frightened. But enough of my (one of) my pet peeves.

I have several announcements:

- Our long time Public Service Coordinator, Klaus Berkner, K6KHB has done a great job over the years maintaining close relationships with our served-clients and coordinating with our club members who serve as event coordiantors, but Klaus has decided to take a break from this position. Thank you, Klaus for all you've done for MDARC!
- Lisa Anthony, K6PIA has accepted this Public Service Coordinator position and she will receive elmering from Klaus and of course support from all the rest of us.
- Barbara Whyson, KJ6BAW has agreed to serve on the temporary Celebrating 75 Years Committee supporting the Chairperson (YBD). Yes, this January MDARC will be celebrating 75 years and we want to commemorate the occasion.

Field Day! Hope you made it and if you did, hope you enjoed the BBQ, great conversations, and tasty food.



It had also had all the earmarks of a song fest.

Thanks Pete, KE6ZIW!



We even had Mike Patterson, N6JGA our East Bay Section Manager grace the BBQ table. Mike knows MDARC has great food!



Drew La Vere Hanson (11/17/32-04/16/20)

Today I attended Drew's memorial service held in Brentwood. Because I am a "johnny come lately" to ham radio, I did not have the opportunity to get to know Drew very well, although we likely crossed paths during one of MDARC's public service events in which Drew was a regular participant. It was an experience at today's memorial service to learn more about him. Family members shared stories about their "Uncle Drew" and his siter and brother-in-law recounted personal history that was likely unknown to many of us in attendance. I shared with those present about his dedication and service commitment from what I'd learned from Pete, KE6ZIW during his association with Drew while he was our Public Service Coordinator. [Thanks Pete!]

I took a few pictures from the objects-of-memory table and made this simple collage.



Accepting donations: Please consider donating to the club.

- Donating to MDARC through Amazon Smile is a "painless" and at-no-cost-to-you way to donate. Use this link:

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7072059>

TIP: Be sure to bookmark the AmazonSmile website so it is conveniently available whenever you place orders with Amazon.

- Check out even more ways to donate from MDARC's webpage.

<http://www.mdarc.org/resources/donate-to-mdarc>

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You shop. Amazon gives.
You can donate to MDARC just by shopping at
[AmazonSmile.Com](https://smile.amazon.com).
[Click Here](#) for details.

Club Meeting: Friday, 07/16/21. This will be our return to an in-person meeting and will again be at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Lafayette. We will be providing a Zoom option, but please realize that this will not be as in-your-screen face as you may have been used to. We've done some dry runs so know we can at least provide something.

Unlike in the “old days”, when the meeting started at 7:30PM, the July 16th meeting will start at 7:00, but of course the doors to the Main Hall are open earlier for meeting and chatting.

Larry KI6LNB and VEs will be providing license testing starting at 6:00PM.

“The greatest motivational act one person can do for another is to listen.” Roy E. Moody
73,
Larry Bradley KK6QPE
07/07/21



**How many ARRL Field Day sites featured live entertainment?
Lauren Styles, WA6CIE and Pete Harris, KE6ZIW perform at
W6CX on June 26, 2021 (Photo by Dave Billeci, WA6UHA)**



OUR FIRST PUBLIC SERVICE EVENT OF THE YEAR IS HERE !

The Skyline 50k running race in the Oakland Hills is scheduled for August 1, 2021.

For those of you who are new to the race, Skyline is one of the oldest continuously running 50k races in the United States.

The course starts and finishes at the Lake Chabot Marina and travels a large loop through the East Bay Regional Parks.

We are looking for experienced communicators and new licensees who will be teamed up at one of six check points along the running route. We will report on the bib numbers of the first three male runners and the first three female runners, as well as the bib numbers of the last five runners. We will also report to net control the bib numbers of any dropped out runners and report on the supply needs of the aid station to which we are assigned.

We have been asked to provide communications for this event since cell phone coverage in the race route is weak to non-existent. Reliable communication is a must for this type of activity in this remote area.

Public service events are a good way for hams of all experience levels to get on the air, to practice your communication talents, to serve a worthwhile cause, and to learn and practice the protocols which exist for effective emergency communication. If you are an ARRL member, an excellent article on what to expect at your first event is on page 26-27 the July/August issue of ARRL's *On The Air* on-line magazine at <https://www.arrl.org/read-on-the-air>.

To be added to the amateur radio roster, please contact our club's Public Service Coordinator Lisa Anthony, at k6pia@piapro.com. Thank you for considering joining us for this event.

— Larry Loomer, KI6LNB

W6CX ARRL FIELD DAY OLYMPIC HIGH SCHOOL IN CONCORD JUNE 26, 2021



MDARC-1 communications van and the club communications trailer. The van hosted a 40m SSB and a 40m CW station along with a DATV station.

Mike Warren, W6MEW, operates FT8 on 20 meters outside the club communications trailer



**Charles Henry, KG6PHZ, again provided his solar array that powered most of the W6CX Field Day station equipment
(Photos by N4DLA)**





(Photo by N4DLA)



(Photo by Dave Billeci, WA6UHA)

Dinner is served at W6CX in the Olympic High School parking lot

Thanks to all who helped with Field Day

A 10 Meter Maritime Adventure

By Matthew G. Vurek, N4DLA © 2021 All Rights Reserved

In March 1992, I was employed by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs at their medical center in Palo Alto, California. Inside a small room at the Western Blind Rehabilitation Center (Building 48; replaced in 2017 by the new Polytrauma Center) was an amateur radio station generously donated by the local American Legion Amateur Radio Post. It featured a Kenwood TS-440SAT connected to a Butternut HF vertical on the roof of the two story building. The FCC did not issue new club station licenses from 1978 until 1996 so there was no club callsign.

Ten meters has always been my favorite HF band. On March 9, 1992, during my lunch break, KD6FND maritime mobile answered my CQ on 28.337 MHz. His signal was 59, and with his 6th district callsign, I thought he was sailing on the nearby San Francisco Bay. Imagine my surprise when KD6FND replied, no, he was sailing southwest on the Pacific Ocean enroute from Ventura in Southern California to the Marquesas Islands in French Polynesia! Don Cook, who was aboard the 35 foot sailboat *Rhiannon*, said he had just received his Novice class license the previous month but that meant his only HF voice privileges were on 10 meters.

During our first contact, Don provided his coordinates and then gave me his home telephone number in Ventura. He asked me to pass a message to his wife that he and his brother (the yacht's skipper) were okay, the boat was fine and they were making good progress. I dutifully wrote his message up in ARRL *Radiogram* format and, that evening, called his wife Carol from my home phone. She was delighted to receive the *Radiogram* and dictated a message to me to send back to Don during our next QSO.

Thus began daily 30 minute or so QSOs at 12 noon California time with KD6FND. Propagation was excellent and we both had strong signals during each contact. However, a few days after our first QSO, KD6FND reported the yacht's satellite navigation system had failed. As a result, they resorted to using their nautical charts and a sextant. Fortunately, other amateur stations soon joined my QSOs with KD6FND. They were glad to help Don with weather reports, navigation assistance and even phone patches.

Unfortunately, my VA superiors had no interest in my lunchtime radio activity, despite the positive publicity it could have brought the medical center. They actively discouraged me from using the amateur radio station and eventually ordered me off the air, even though my operations were during authorized break times. With KD6FND in range of other hams who had much more sailing and maritime radio experience than me (as well as phone patch equipment), I wished Don the best of luck and signed off with him for the last time in late March, a few days before he arrived in Hiva Oa.

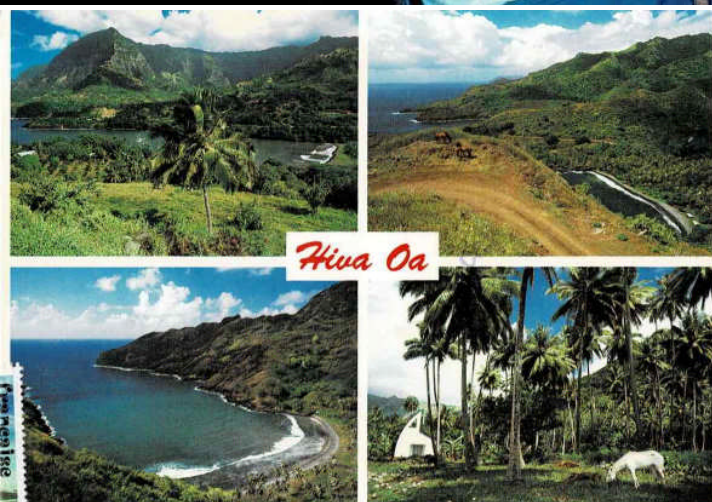
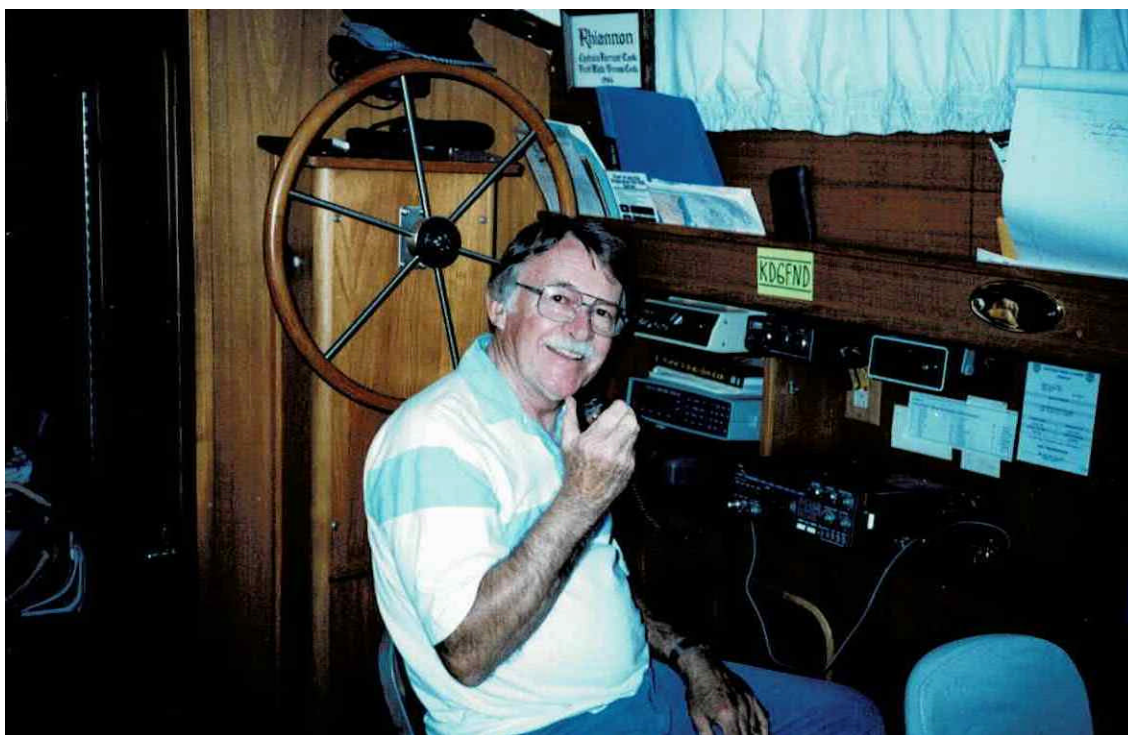
When Don returned stateside, he mailed all the stations he contacted a thank you letter, along with color photos of him aboard the *Rhiannon*, a voyage map and a QSL card. An excerpt from his letter follows:

“During March of [1992], I worked you while aboard the yacht *Rhiannon* enroute from Ventura, California to Hiva Oa in the Marquesas Islands. It was a really exciting time for me as I was newly licensed and the many contacts I made with friendly and helpful hams provided a fabulous introduction to the hobby. I am particularly appreciative of the camaraderie and assistance of the members of what came to be known as the ‘Rhiannon Net’ on 28.337 MHz: Bob, N6NUY [SK 2001] who served as net control, passed messages and ran phone patches; and Mal, KC6VDR [SK 2019, himself a sailor] who assisted with navigation problems.” (Author's note: Bill De La Mater, KB6LFM, a U.S. Navy veteran who served in Vietnam, also communicated with KD6FND during the voyage and is still active in the maritime mobile amateur radio community today; he is also an MDARC member).

Don's transpacific journey aboard the *Rhiannon* easily fit the category of “the trip of a lifetime.” His lifeline to the world was 10 meters, which produced many memorable QSOs with the stations he contacted. A report authored by N6NUY about how amateur radio helped KD6FND's voyage appeared in the “Public Service” column on page 100 in the January 1993 *QST* magazine.

Epilogue: Don later upgraded to Advanced class and was issued a new callsign (KO6WZ). In 1998, I promoted out of VA to a much different federal agency where I remained for the next 20 years until retirement, although I never again had access to a workplace HF amateur radio station (but I did have an operating 2m/440 MHz FM mobile transceiver in my office in Oakland, which my new superiors never complained about).

(photos on following page)



TOP: The sailing yacht *Rhiannon* departs the harbor in Ventura, California and begins its 30 day voyage to French Polynesia on February 29, 1992 (KN6FND photo)

ABOVE: Don Cook, KN6FND, on the air inside the *Rhiannon*'s cabin during his trip (KN6FND photo)

LEFT: The postcard KN6FND mailed to N4DLA after arrival in Hiva Oa in late March 1992

MDARC General Meeting Minutes May 21, 2021

Held at Zoom online

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by the MDARC President Larry Bradley KK6QPE

- a. The president welcomed all attendees.
- b. New members were acknowledged.
- c. There were no visitors at this time.
- d. He encouraged attendance to the Board Meeting on 6/7/2021

Due to the absence of any comments, the Agenda was deemed to be approved

2. The Pledge of Allegiance will not be made during virtual meetings.

3. Approval of Minutes from the Last Meeting: The minutes of the March meeting were approved.

4. Officer Reports:

- a. The President stated that he had no report.
- b. The Vice President stated that he had no report.
- c. The Secretary stated that he had no report.
- d. The Treasurer read the monthly report :
MDARC Checking account income \$4,032.08, Expenses \$2,124.30, Surplus \$1,907.78 for the month.
Total MDARC Checking/Savings \$71,051.73. Equipment self-insurance \$58,183.64, Pacificon \$14,420.59. Total assets \$143,655.96. There were no questions for Cathy K2CJW
- e. The Emergency Coordinator had no report.

5. Committee Reports – Standing:

- e. Education and Training; John Primus AF6RJ submitted a report which was attached to meeting notice.
- l. Field Day; Larry Loomer KI6LNB stated that he had contacted the City of Concord Parks and Recreation Department who stated that their parking lots are scheduled to be very busy during the summertime. They suggested that he contact the Mount Diablo Unified School District. Larry KI6LNB and Mike W6MEW approached Loma Vista Adult Center off of Cowell Road in Concord but reroofing will be in progress and the smell would be too bad. Mike W6MEW suggested Olympic High School on Salvio street in Concord. The parking lot is facing Salvio street which will be visible to passersby. They will pursue this option. We have a permit number with the Unified School District, Cathy K2CJW is working on and addendum to our \$ 1M insurance policy as requested by the school district, and a memorandum of understanding with the school district has been filled out by Larry KI6LNB. The cost of the parking lot is \$17/hour which will come to a total of \$850 which is what we have in our budget for the site cost. Larry has ordered a Porta Potty and washstand because use of the school restrooms would be much more expensive. He has sent out a 2021 volunteer list, which is approximately the same as the 2019 Field Day list, to all the people on the MDARC groups.io list, asking for volunteers. He is planning for a normal open-air event, hoping that the governor will open things up on June 15th. There were no questions for Larry KI6LNB. Larry KK6QPE thanked him for his report. There were no other committee reports.

(continued on following page)

Larry KK6QPE asked if anybody had any questions about any of the items on the Committee Reports list. There were no questions.

6. Unfinished Business: None

7. New Business: None

8. Adjourn Business meeting: Larry KK6QPE called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Cal K6VT seconded by Bruce KK6SQM, proposed a motion for the adjournment. Since there were no objections, the business portion of the meeting was adjourned at 7:14 pm.

Speaker Introduction by Jan KM6NFC: John Trinrud, K9ONR will present A "Private" Winlink Network for Walnut Creek CERT.

Respectfully submitted by, Brian Lotter KM6NGS, Secretary, on June 8, 2021

VISITOR SALUTE TO W6CX REPEATER SYSTEM

“To the officers and maintenance people of the Mt Diablo ARC, I wish to thank all of you for allowing me to use your repeater system and the IRLP system to talk to my club members in South Dakota. I am Pete Burkett, WN6QJN and as you can figure from my call, I was at one time a resident of California but moved to the Black Hills of South Dakota in 2008. I am the president of the Hot Springs ARC located in Hot Springs, SD. I am currently in the Concord and Sacramento area visiting family and friends. You have great repeater system. . . **smile**.

“If any member(s) of your club visit the Black Hills/Hot Springs, we have club repeaters located in Hot Springs on 444.700 +5.0 pl 146.2/146.2 with an HF remote base and on Mt Coolidge in Custer State Park on 147.120 -.600 pl 146.2/146.2. There is a wide coverage repeater operated by the Black Hills ARC on Bear Mt on 146.850 -.600 pl 146.2. All repeaters are open to all licensed hams. . . welcome. . .”

73,

Pete Burkett, WN6QJN
June 11, 2021





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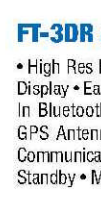
FTM-400XD | 2M/440 Mobile

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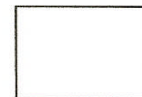
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The Carrier

Newsletter of the Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 23222
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523
www.mdarc.org



FIRST CLASS

THIS MONTH: IN PERSON MEETINGS RESUME !

<https://www.facebook.com/mdarc.org>

W6CX Nets

M-F 5:42 am Morning Muster 147.060+ 224.780- 441.325+

M-F 6:10am Commuter Net 147.060+ 224.780- 441.325+

Monday 8:00 pm SATERN Net 147.060+

Tuesday 7:30 pm Fat City 10 meter USB/CW Net 28.420 MHz

Tuesday 8:00pm Digital Practice Net 147.060+ 224.78- 441.325+

Wednesday 7:00 pm SKYWARN Net 147.060+

Thursday 7:30 pm MDARC Club Net 147.060+

Thursday 8:00 pm Digital Amateur Television Net 147.060+

Club FM Repeaters

147.060 MHz + / PL 100Hz

224.780 MHz - / PL 77Hz 441.325 MHz + / PL 100Hz

EchoLink: W6CX-R /133896, IRLP: 3057

<https://www.broadcastify.com/listen/feed/25334>

D-STAR 145.000 offset plus 2.5 MHz

<https://w6cx.dstargateway.org/>

DATV Internet Stream: <http://w6cxatv.mdarc.org/>

YouTube Channel: Media MDARC

Contra Costa County Emergency Communications Nets Every Thursday

6:35 pm HF Countywide 3.893 MHz LSB

6:45 pm West County 145.110-- (82.5 PL)

7:00 pm Central County 145.680 Simplex

7:00 pm East County 146.535 Simplex

7:00 pm South County 147.480 Simplex

7:20 pm Countywide 145.490-- (107.2 PL)

or 147.735-- (107.2 PL)

or 145.410-- (107.2 PL)

Concord Auxiliary Radio Emergency Service (CARES)

Wednesday 8:00pm 147.405 Simplex

Digital Amateur Television Repeater

Digital ATV Output: 1244.500

Digital ATV Inputs: 1292.500, 1273.0, 917.0, 430.0

Analog ATV Input: 1270.000 FM (PL 192.8)

July and August 2021 Club Calendar

Friday July 16, 2021 7:00pm - MDARC General Meeting Our Savior's Lutheran Church 1035 Carol Lane, Lafayette
Also available on zoom.us via link sent from groups.io

Monday August 2, 2021 7:00pm - MDARC Board of Directors Meeting - VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE

Saturday August 7, 2021 8:00am - MDARC Technical Committee Meeting - VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE

Friday August 20, 2021 7:30pm - MDARC General Meeting Our Savior's Lutheran Church 1035 Carol Lane, Lafayette